REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Dote for allowing Claims 1, 3-14 and 16-20.

Claims 19 and 20 have been canceled. Thus, the rejections of Claims 19 and 20 are moot and all remaining claims are allowed.

No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3-14 and 16-18 are active in this application.

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 06/04) Registration No. 35,270

Kirsten A. Grüneberg, Ph.D. Registration No. 47,297